

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 ACDA-12 MCE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 IO-13
/107 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:EDSMITH:CSR
APPROVED BY EUR:GSVEST
EUR/SE:RCEWING
H:TWESTON

-----091804 120331Z /70

P R 120153Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO
USINT HAVANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 093332

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PGOV, PERP, MASS, TU

SUBJECT:CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF ADMINISTRATION'S
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAM

1. AT HIS REQUEST, TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL MET APRIL
10 WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST TO INQUIRE ABOUT ADMIN-
ISTRATION'S CONGRESSIONAL STRATEGY FOR SEEKING REPEAL OF
US ARMS EMBARGO. ESENBEL COMMENTED THAT HE HAD
SPOKEN EARLIER APRIL 10 WITH CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ WHO HAD
MENTIONED HE WOULD BE MEETING LATER IN DAY WITH DEPARTMENT
REPRESENTATIVES.

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2. VEST TOLD ESENBEL THAT WE WERE UNDERTAKING SERIES OF
DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIVIDUALS AND VARIOUS GROUPS IN THE
CONGRESS. VEST ANTICIPATED THAT HIGH-LEVEL ADMINISTRATION
WITNESSES WOULD ALSO TESTIFY BEFORE SENATE FOREIGN RELA-
TIONS COMMITTEE HEARINGS, TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR EARLY
MAY. VEST ALSO INFORMED ESENBEL OF THOSE EXPECTED TO

TESTIFY AT APRIL 14 AND 17 HIRC HEARINGS (SEPTTEL).

3. ESENBEL NOTED THAT PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM BELGIUM AND UK HAD RECENTLY MADE VISITS TO THE TURKISH SECTOR OF CYPRUS. HE SAID THAT IF A DELEGATION OF US CONGRESSMEN

WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SUCH A TRIP, THE GOT COULD ARRANGE FOR AN INVITATION TO BE EXTENDED BY DENKTASH. VEST NOTED THAT CONGRESS IS ENTERING ITS MOST HECTIC PERIOD. HE DID NOT KNOW WHEN SUCH A VISIT COULD TAKE PLACE, BUT PROMISED TO PASS THE SUGGESTION ALONG. VEST AGREED THAT SUCH A VISIT COULD BE VALUABLE. COMMENT: WE RECOGNIZE THAT RECENT TURKISH CYPRIOT ARRANGED VISITS BY BELGIUM AND BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIANS HAVE CAUSED GOC SERIOUS PROBLEMS. WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE THOSE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO VISIT CYPRUS TO ALLOW TIME FOR TALKS WITH TURKISH CYPRIOTS, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT ENCOURAGING DENKTASH TO ISSUE INVITATIONS, OR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ACCEPT, WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL AT THIS STAGE. END COMMENT.

4. ESENBEL ALSO PASSED ALONG "CONFIDENTIAL" INFORMATION FROM THE TURKISH EMBASSY IN CYPRUS THAT CYPRIOT SOCIALIST LEADER LYSSARIDES HAD RECENTLY BEEN TO CUBA AND HAD FOUND CUBA RECEPTIVE TO GREEK CYPRIOT CAUSE (WE RECOGNIZE THAT LYSSARIDES VISIT TO CUBA HAD BEEN WIDELY REPORTED IN GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS). ESENBEL ALSO REPORTED RUMORS THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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AROUND 1,000 ARMED PALESTINIANS WOULD BE COMING SOON TO CYPRUS. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, US CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS, ARMS EMBARGO
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE093332
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EDSMITH:CSR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780156-0945
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780465/aaaacdf1.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e628d0b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2993044
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF ADMINISTRATION'S EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAM
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, MASS, TU, ZM
To: ANKARA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e628d0b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014